



Automated Medical Payments

Medicaid Bulletin

Colorado Title XIX

Fiscal Agent

CONSULTEC

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Medicaid Provider Services

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Medicaid Fiscal Agent Information on the Internet

WWW.CONSULTEC-GCRO.COM

Internet Version

subsequent bulletins or provider manual updates.

Please direct questions about bulletins and billing information to Medicaid Provider Services.

**Distribution:
providers**

Hospital

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New Version of Grouper

Effective February 1, 2000, the following versions of the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) Grouper will be used to process Medicaid inpatient hospital claims:

- ◆ All inpatient claims with a discharge date on or after February 1, 2000 will pay using Grouper Version 17.0.
- ◆ All inpatient claims with a discharge date from February 1, 1999 through January 31, 2000 will pay using Grouper Version 16.0.
- ◆ All inpatient claims with a discharge date prior to February 1, 1999 will pay using Grouper Version 15.0.

The Version 17.0 Grouper will use a new set of relative weights, Average Lengths Of Stay (ALOS), and trim points for all DRGs. Adjustments to the new DRG statistics will be based on Fiscal Year 1998 and 1999 Medicaid claims and reflect changes in medical technology, practice patterns, and other changes in hospital costs.

After being reviewed by the DRG advisory committee, the new set of DRG weights will be published in a Medicaid Bulletin before February 1, 2000. The new weights will be implemented on February 1, 2000 to coincide with the implementation of the new Grouper.

Please direct questions about Medicaid billing or the information in this bulletin to Medicaid Provider Services at:

303-534-0146 or

1-800-237-0757 (toll free Colorado).

Medicaid bulletins contain important policy and billing information and should be shared promptly with billing staff.

Bulletins supplement information in the Medicaid Provider Manual and should be retained with the provider manual for reference. Retain all bulletins until published notification advises that the information is obsolete or reproduced in